

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AGR-20 HEW-08 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10

IO-13 JUSE-00 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00

USIA-15 NSC-10 SCI-06 OMB-01 PRS-01 PA-03 AID-20 L-03

SS-15 H-03 RSR-01 /155 W

----- 121627

R 021300Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1004

INFO AMCONSUL ADANA

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE IZMIR 317

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, SNAR, EAGR, TU

SUBJECT: POPPIES AND THE ELECTION

1. AN ARTICLE PRINTED JULY 31 IN EKSPRES, IZMIR'S
SECOND LARGEST DAILY, SUGGESTS OPIUM POPPY BAN MAY
BE ELECTION ISSUE IN INTERIOR PROVINCES OF IZMIR
CONSULAR DISTRICT THIS FALL. THRUST OF ARTICLE IS
THAT VILLAGERS WILL VOTE FOR CANDIDATES WHO PROMISE
RESTORE LEGAL POPPY CULTIVATION. NATIONAL SALVATION
PARTY CHAIRMAN ERBAKAN IS QUOTED AS PROMISING TO
LIFT BAN ON CULTIVATION AND THE ARTICLE STATES THAT

OTHER PARTIES WILL BE FORCED TO TAKE A SIMILAR
POSITION TO AVOID LOSING VOTES.

2. ARTICLE ALSO NOTES THAT UNION OF TURKISH CHAMBERS
OF AGRICULTURE IS PREPARING TO SEND TO THE GOVERNMENT
A MEMO PROPOSING RESUMPTION CULTIVATION ON CONTROLLED
BASIS. MEMO REPORTEDLY STATES THAT OPIUM BAN HAS
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COST TURKISH FARMER 8.6 MILLION DOLLARS DURING PAST

YEAR. ARTICLE ALSO QUOTES POPPYSEED OIL CURSHERS AS SAYING U.S. ASSISTANCE NOT HELPFUL TO THEM AND THAT THEIR LOSSES WILL BE IN MILLIONS UNLESS CULTIVATION RESUMED.

3. COMMENT: ARTICLE ESSENTIALLY CONTRIVED ATTEMPT TO CREATE NEWS; NEVERTHELESS POPPY CULTIVATION WILL BE AMONG IMPORTANT ELECTION ISSUES IN FORMER POPPY GROWING AREAS. WE BELIEVE IT LIKELY HOWEVER THAT ISSUE WILL BE BLUNTED BY FACT ALL PARTIES WILL PROBABLY AT LEAST PAY LIP SERVICE TO IDEA SOME KIND OF RESUMPTION OF CULTIVATION. WE HOPEFUL THAT MAJOR PARTIES WILL ARTFULLY AVOID MAKING UNHEDGED COMMITMENTS.

SMITH

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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To: STATE
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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005